



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY
JANUARY 28, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 12

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were trending unchanged in the West, mixed, but mostly higher elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady to firm as severe weather conditions continue to play a major role in the market. Demand was slow to fair in the Northeast, better elsewhere. Supplies were adequate to tight and becoming less available as more plants were closed in the Northeast as well as the South which also reported several houses down. Heavy processing schedules for Saturday are as planned if weather permits. In the parts structure, breast items were in the tightest position with some buyers astonished at premium asking prices for bone-in breasts. Wings were at least sufficient and the remaining items were no more than adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavier than normal.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 1/31-02/04/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Including branded product)		COMPOSITE	
	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	43.00-46.00	41.00-60.50	46.20	23
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	62.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	63.00	—		
New York	45.00-47.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	63.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	55.00-57.50	37.50-58.50	56.69	81

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 58.00 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
534	53.00-59.89	57.82
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	140.50	3,744
BREASTS - WHOLE	72.50	1,633
THIGH MEAT - B/S	74.50	582
LEG QUARTERS	20.00	7,429
WINGS	71.00	2,549

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was at least steady. Demand was fair to moderate as predictions for more severe winter weather may further influence movement. Supplies were adequate to tight. Due to heavy snow, numerous plants throughout Southern region were closed with some reports of several houses being down. Processing scheduled for Saturday will occur only if weather permits. In the parts structure, trading covered the full range with breast items receiving best interest and wings slow. Availability was tight for breast cuts, at least adequate for all others. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was about steady. Preliminary majority prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate overall with light weights in the closest position. Sizes trended heavy. Inclement weather conditions in some processing areas temporarily curtailed operations; but better weather was forecasted for the weekend and slaughter schedules, where halted, expected to resume. Demand by stores was fairly good where featured otherwise just fair, moderate to fairly good by restaurants, best by fast food. Dealers anticipated fair weekend carryovers. Breasts were firm, wings weak and leg quarters about steady.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading into Chicago were 2 cents higher from last Monday's prices, TFEWR to report elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady to firm. Offerings were light as processors in the South and East are down or at less than full production due to winter storms. Buyer needs limited with most able to procure product ahead the storm. Retail demand was light to fair. Food service demand in a full range. Floor stocks were adequate, sizes desirable. Supplies of parts were adequate, wings ample. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm on breast items, weak on wings and steady on the remainder.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was about moderate as effects from this week's storm continued to influence trading. Offerings were still mostly short of full needs. Retail and distributive movement was fair at best. The market tone was fully steady to firm yet cautious. In the parts market, supplies of wings continued to mount. All other parts were tight to about adequate, however premium asking prices on bone-in breasts were meeting some buyer resistance.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was just fair into normal channels of distribution; however, recent plant closings on Delmarva and ongoing closings caused by bitter winter conditions in nearby production centers combine to limit availability. Live supplies were moderate to heavy; weights were generally heavier than desired. Processing schedules were extremely heavy as most plants planned full operations both today and tomorrow. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent higher at 47 to 59 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly firm. In the parts complex, the bulk of items were no more adequate. Wings remained in excess.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	44-65
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	49.98
NO. OF BOXES	7,259
CUMULATIVE	49.07
	01/24/00-01/28/00
	01/25/99-01/29/99
NO. OF BOXES	59.02
	01/24/00-01/28/00
	01/25/99-01/29/99
	29,626
	37,771

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

JAN 27, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

JAN 28, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE			(000)	RANGE			(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	416	130.00-189.00	135-140	148.16	196	135.00-189.00	135-140	164.28	1,612	149.45
TENDERLOINS	63	110.00-170.00	-	129.52	138	170.00-200.00	-	196.09	515	167.17
BREAST - LINE RUN	122	67.00-74.00	-	73.43	120	73.50-74.00	-	73.97	646	71.64
FRONT HALVES	45	47.00-49.00	-	47.44					253	49.09
LEGS	47	27.00-34.00	27-28	28.04					159	28.72
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	378	15.50-19.00	16-18	16.12					1,677	17.13
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,160	17.50-21.00	18-20	19.88	980	19.00-21.00	19-20	19.92	4,880	19.73
WINGS (WHOLE)	107	66.00-70.00	66-68	68.50	89	70.00-74.00	-	70.99	446	69.81
WINGS (CUT)	540	76.50-88.00	79-81	81.87	372	74.50-83.00	77-80	79.18	2,316	82.50
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT							39	34.00
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT							39	34.00
B/S THIGHS	41	73.00-76.00	-	75.93	50	73.00-76.00	-	75.40	241	75.49

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR JAN 27, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S**RANGE****AVERAGE**

31.25 - 34.00

31.78

RANGE**AVERAGE**

32.00 - 33.00

32.65

5-DAY**AVERAGE**

32.94

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest was fair and most dealers were cautiously watching the market for further weather-related problems heading into next week. Offerings of wings were available. All other items were short to no more than adequate and breast items were in the tightest position. Many buyers, however, were beginning to balk at extreme premiums being asked on bone-in breasts. Retail and distributive movement was no better than fair. The market tone was firm on breast items, weak on wings and steady to fully steady on the balance.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED

BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

JAN 28, 2000

JAN 27, 2000

CURRENT NEG**WTD**

ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	140-145	145.46	249,200
TENDERLOINS	115	115.62	42,800
BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	74.17	170,320
BREAST - LINE RUN	68	73.60	81,680
LEGS	26-27	31.33	123,480
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.53	211,320
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.13	80,880
THIGHS	21-22	28.90	59,080
B/S THIGHS	70-71	75.29	16,520
WINGS (WHOLE)	70-71	78.57	117,520
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.07	31,640
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	33.30	31,440
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	58.92	41,520

CURRENT NEG**WTD**

ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	145-150	143.15	569,640	141.97	1,285,440
TENDERLOINS	115	119.05	102,040	117.12	220,040
BREAST - WITH RIBS	70-71	77.94	182,320	75.78	561,440
BREAST - LINE RUN	70	74.30	208,400	73.09	444,480
LEGS	26-27	31.81	149,640	29.76	698,700
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.13	447,120	18.22	999,418
DRUMSTICKS	36-37	33.94	101,120	34.18	250,680
THIGHS	21-22	27.65	77,840	28.40	197,400
B/S THIGHS	70-71	75.63	20,880	75.31	55,400
WINGS (WHOLE)	68-69	76.61	157,600	78.64	473,040
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.00	27,600	12.04	103,240
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.53	32,400	34.16	96,720
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.41	57,240	59.42	154,560

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	01/28	01/27	01/26	01/25	01/26	01/25	01/21	01/19
ALA	3,7503	,894	3,795	3,763	4.97	5.05	3,773	5.11
ARK	6,080	5,229	4,956	5,139	4.91	4.95	4,779	4.84
DELMARVA	4,441	2,442	806	(A)	5.56	(A)	3,700	5.21
KY-LA-TN	1,933	1,991	1,874	(A)	4.40	(A)	1,954	4.32
MISS	808	2,683	2,647	2,219	5.01	4.98	2,609	5.04
NC	4,162	1,714	698	769	5.79	6.01	3,716	5.88
TEXAS	1,974	2,260	2,036	2,206	4.78	4.84	2,434	4.78
TOTAL	23,148	20,213	16,812	16,310	4.93	4.91	22,965	4.99
MON-FRI	96,863(B)						97,775(B)	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 28-Jan 00

29-Jan-00 is estimated to be 34,632,000 up 0.50 percent from a week ago and up 8.1 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 34,461,000; last year 32,026,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week

ending 29-Jan-00 is estimated to be 147,151,000 head unchanged

from a week ago, and down 1.7 percent from a year ago

(Last week 147,873,000 Last year 149,667,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	77-81
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	79-88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299-309
RABBITS-CUT UP	316-326

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	104
ROASTERS 4# & UP	92-97
HENS OVER 5#	104-107
DUCKS	112
	98
	91
	149-162

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Jan. 15, 1999 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	31,065	27,611	45,924
Avg Weight	3.78	4.85	6.11
% of total /1	30%	26%	44%

COMPARISONS

Last week	25,525	37,437	44,153
Avg Weight	3.76	4.74	6.07
% of total /1	24%	35%	41%
Same week, yr ago /2	36,315	34,358	43,813
Avg Weight	3.85	4.76	6.13
% of total /1	32%	30%	38%
To date/2000	56,590	65,048	90,077
To date/1999	66,910	68,559	90,804

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 22-Jan-00 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	147,873(A)	2,030	1,229	3,259	477
AVG WT	5.20	3.32	8.19	5.16	6.42
LAST WEEK	156,486	2,149	1,283	3,432	575
YR AGO	144,272	2,408	1,211	3,619	475
AVG WT	5.03	3.39	7.47	4.76	7.05
TO-DATE/2000	459,946	6,186	4,138	10,324	1,514
TO-DATE/1999	455,230	6,796	4,071	10,867	1,530

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 150.6 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 149.7 million head or 0.9 million head less than or 99 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY -
- DATE OF AUCTION: JAN 25, 2000

*****NO SALES REPORTED DUE TO SEVERE WINTER WEATHER
 CONDITIONS IN THE NORTHEAST*****

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 24-JAN-2000

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	54-55	
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	69-83	71-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices remained unchanged. The market tone was steady. Demand was good to at times very good for the approaching Chinese New Year. Sizes were desirable and schedules were full time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in legs at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 24-JAN-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS
 AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
DECEMBER 18	150.8	139.5	108	5.05
25	118.9	137.9	86	5.05
JANUARY 1	129.1	140.4	92	4.89
8	157.5	144.3	109	5.01
15	158.4	148.5	107	5.10
22	149.7	150.6	99	5.20
YEAR TO DATE	465.6	443.4	105	
JANUARY 29		151.7		
FEBRUARY 5		152.4		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 22-Jan-00

IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 4,365 HD, 22,392 lbs., Light Hens 190 HD, 638 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----					
W/E	01/29/00	01/22/00	%CHG	01/30/99	%CHG	
Broilers	147,151	*147,873	0	*149,667	-02	
Cattle	677	704	-04	*676	0	
Hogs	1,869	1,918	-03	*1,972	-05	

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Majority trading on heavy canners trended slightly higher, and unchanged to occasionally higher on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was generally good for limited offerings of heavies. However, interest was usually moderate for about adequate to adequate offerings of light canners. Undertone was fully steady on heavies and mostly steady on lights.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
25-27 MAJORITY	32-37 MAJORITY 35-36
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
25-30 MAJORITY 26-28	33-38 MAJORITY 37-37.75

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was light to moderate for the adequate offerings. Processing schedules for next week were irregular. Undertone was steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate to good for about adequate to adequate offerings. Processing schedules plans were about normal. The undertone was mostly steady.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-.5 (2)	0
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants schedules mixed. Offerings adequate.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices unchanged. Processors ran mostly full-time schedules with spent fowl offerings fully adequate to ample. Trade sentiment steady at best.

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